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MOSES LINDO.

A Sketch of the Most Prominent Jew in Charleston in Provincial Days.

...BY...

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MOSES LINDO.

A Sketch of the Most Prominent Jew in Charleston in Provincial Days.

The subject of this sketch is a most interesting figure in the early days of South Carolina's history. Who Moses Lindo was, I do not know. I only know what is related of him in that wonderfully rich and priceless collection of Gazettes that is to be found in our own Charleston Library alone. I have as yet made no attempt to trace him in London. I shall do so later and I am satisfied that I shall have no difficulty in finding out something more about him. I am personally acquainted with several members of the Lindo family in London, which has been notably connected with the Spanish and Portuguese community of that city for several generations. Picciotto in his charming "Sketches of Anglo-Jewish History," (p. 124,) makes mention of a Moses Lindo, Jr, as a prominent member of the "Deputies of British Jews," a body appointed "To watch all Acts of Parliament, Acts of Government, laws, libels, addresses, or whatever else may affect the body of Jews," and which is to-day the most influential organization of Jews in the world. He may be a son of our Moses Lindo. The latter was himself an important personage in London prior to his coming to South Carolina. He himself tells us (January 19, 1767:) "I have been allowed to be one of the best judges of Cochineal and Indico on the ROYAL EXCHANGE, for upwards of 25 years past, and have not been thought unworthy (when Sir Stephen Theodore Jansen represented the city of London in Parliament) to be called with Mr Samuel Torin and Mr Daniel Valentine, to give my sentiments of Carolina Indico to the hon. House of Commons of Great Britain." Suffice it to say, then, that he was an expert indigo sorter, in London, who, noticing that a particularly fine grade of indigo was received from South Carolina, changed his headquarters in 1756 from London to Charles-Town. The rest of his story cannot be better told than by the Gazettes themselves.

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We first meet with Moses Lindo in the Gazettes, some three months before he arrives in Charles-Town. The following is the first notice of him and appears in the supplement to the "South Carolina Gazette" of Thursday, August 19, 1756.

"A Correspondent in London, has sent us the following Advertisement, and with it proper Directions for making Lime Water to subside Indico.

"To the Printer of the Public Advertiser:

"SIR:

"I HAVE examined the major Part of the Carolina Indico entered this year, and have the Pleasure to find a considerable Quantity equal to the BEST French; and tho' there is some inferior to the Sight by 3s. 6d. per Pound, yet on using it as under, I am convinced the Inferiority is not more that 1s. 6d. a Pound. Therefore, Sir, your publishing this, will be a singular Service to the consumer, and consequently oblige.

"Your constant Reader,

"Moses Lindo, Wormwood-street.

"The Carolina of the above Sortment must be ground finer than the French, and cast into Blood-warm Water three Days before Use, drawing off the Water every 24 hours, and casting fresh, and adding a 5th Part more Madder than usual. The Cause of its not working free is, that some of the Makers at Carolina are unacquainted when their Lime-Water is proper to subside the Indico."

"THE DIRECTIONS.

"The proper Lime-Water for Indico must be the Third Water: The First cast away after four Hours, the Second after eight; but the Third must stand ten, which will be more Ascid than alkaline. The Crust that rises on the Water must be carefully taken off, otherwise it will cause the Mould, which would appear in the Indico white, to be the colour of rusty Iron.

"It would be greatly to the advantage of the Maker, if the Pieces were an Inch and a half square."

FROM LONDON TO CHARLES TOWN.

The next notice of Moses Lindo is the announcement of his arrival in Charles-Town.

"MOSES LINDO gives this public Notice, that he is arrived from London, with an Intent to purchase Indico of the Growth and Manufacture of this Province, and to remit the same to his Constituents in London, classed, sorted and packed in a Manner proper for the foreign market.—If any are desirous to know upon what Credit, and to what Extent he purposes to carry on his Branch of Business, he begs leave to refer them for Particulars to Mr John Rattray, who is possessed of his Papers, and to whom he is recommended."

(The South Carolina Gazette, November 11, 1756.)

The magnitude of Lindo's business transactions may be gathered from the following:

"Whereas I have employ'd the Sum of One Hundred and Twenty Thousand Pounds Currency in the Produce of this Country, besides 30,000 Pounds in Prize-Goods and other Articles, all which are paid for, as appears by my Receipt-Book, except about 3,800 Pounds Currency, 2,000 of which does not become due 'till the 22d Instant. The Remaining 1,800 Pounds I have my objections for not paying.

"NOW THIS IS TO GIVE NOTICE, to every Gentleman, Planter and Trader in this Province, who has any Demands on me, that they come and receive their Money from the 15th to the 25th Instant. If any One should take the Liberty of contradicting the above Advertisement, or give out any other malicious Insinuation, in order to prejudice me in the Good Opinion of those I have dealt with, I shall esteem it one of the greatest Favours done to me, to let me know the same by a Line, and their Names shall be concealed. And if such Information comes from a person of middling Circumstances, on due Proof thereof, I do hereby promise to reward him with the Sum of Five Hundred Pounds Currency.

"I return my Thanks to those Gentlemen who assisted me in taking my Bills for 12,000 Pounds Sterling; and to the Planters of Winyah and those of the Southward, for giving me the Preference of their Indico. And do hereby assure them, that (if it please God I live 'till the next Season) I will not let their Fine Indico Fall under 20 Shillings per Pound, having all the Reason to believe I shall have 200,000 Pounds Currency to lay out

the ensuing Year in that Article; wherefore I hope they will not be discouraged.

""MOSES LINDO

Whoever is desirous of being informed what I paid for what I bought, may know of William Branford, John Hutchinson, John Butler, William Gibbs, Jonas Butterfield, Andrew Gowan, &c, &c.

"N. B.—If any Person is willing to part with a plantation of 500 Acres, with 60 or 70 Negroes, I am ready to purchase it for ready money. Please to leave a Line directed to me at Mrs Shepard's in Tradd-street, and Secrecy shall be observed if not agreed on."

(Supplement to the South Carolina Gazette, March 10, 1757.)

A SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENTER.

Moses Lindo was not only an expert indigo sorter, but was also a scientific experimenter with dyes. He sought to encourage investigation, likewise, on the part of others by offering prizes for discoveries if they proved to be of value. Witness the following:

"Mr Timothy:

"I HAVE made Trial of Two CRIMSON DYES lately discovered in this Province; and in Justice to Mr John Story of Port Royal, Carpenter, I am obliged to declare, that I find his Crimson called JOHN'S-BLOOD, answers all the Purposes of Cochineal; for it dyes a fine Crimson on Cotton, so as to stand washing with Soap-Lees; and it is my firm Opinion will likewise dye Scarlet. I have sent Samples of it Home, via Bristol, that, when approved of in London, by Messrs George Farmer and George Honour, two eminent Dyers there. The said Mr Story may be entitled to Part of the Reward offered by the Society for encouraging Arts, to such as can fix a Scarlet or Turkey Red on Cotton.

"And as there are many Roots and Weeds to be found in this Province and Georgia, that will dye REDS, I shall be obliged to all who will meet with such in their Way, to send me a Pound dried in the Shade; that I may make Trials of them. And if the Discoverers be persons in middling Circumstances, and what they produce to me be proven a DYE, I will reward them with Fifty Pounds Currency, and use my best Endeavors to obtain for them further Gratuities from the Dyers' Company in London.

"I am sensible, Mr Timothy, you are a Well-Wisher to the Interest of this Province and the Mother-Country; therefore, hope you will not omit publishing in your Gazettes any Hints tending to the Advantage of both whenever such are offered you; and thereby, amongst others oblige

"Your Constant Reader,

"MOSES LINDO.

"Charles-Town, July 16, 1759."

(South Carolina Gazette, Saturday, July 28, 1759.)

Moses Lindo's contract with the London house which he represented having expired, and their agent having failed to pay for the indigo consigned to them, as also his annual allowance, he next announces that during his stay here he would mark Carolina Indico, First, Second and Third Sort, as he had done for them on a reasonable commission. He does not expect to be paid unless the indico so sorted "adds credit to this province and profit to those who chuse to ship that article," so as to prevent impositions by the purchasers of Carolina indico in England.

(South Carolina Gazette, November 14, 1761.)

"AS GOOD AS THE FRENCH."

In the next notice he announces that in consequence of his advertisement of the 12th of November last, several gentlemen have left their indico to his care. He assures the public that out of the twenty thousand weight on board of the vessels under convoy, there are 18,000 as good as the French. Should it appear at home to the purchasers of it, that he has not demonstrated it as such, he says that it will be doing the gentlemen here a piece of service if they will signify his fault in Lloyd's Evening Post, under the attestation of Messrs Mark Hudson Peter Fearon, Aaron Lara and William Richardson, eminent brokers in this and other dyes. "To whose judgment only I submit, as well as to their equity in doing me justice, whether they ever saw so large a parcel of Carolina indico so even sorted as not to differ in value two pence sterling per pound from the first lot to the last."

Lindo had met with such marked success in his business, that he roused the jealousy of his competitors, who seem to have spread false reports concerning him.

He retaliates in this same advertisement.

"As some purchasers of indico may imagine that by this advertisement I want to get more indico to sort, I do hereby declare that I will only do it for those that I am engaged with, they being well known to capital people, and capable of purchasing as much indico of the planters as I can well attend to." He indignantly denies that he owes more than 3,000 guineas in this province than is due to him at home, 'as some people have through their correspondence insinuated to my friends and relatives.'

The advertisement ends with a humorous touch of scorn:

"Sealed with my seal, well known in most markets in Europe for these 25 years, as always prime indico, which to this time of life I have not yet forfeited; and it is to me really a diversion to see some people in this town pretend to be judges of the quality of indico, to one that has had the experience of upwards of thirty years in it; and I wish they may not, by which they have shipped on board the fleet, experience the presumption."

(South Carolina Gazette, February 27, 1762.)

The importance of the indigo industry to the province of South Carolina may be appreciated from the following historical facts: Indigo began to be cultivated in South Carolina in 1744 and was exported to England as early as 1747, where it attracted considerable attention. Great Britain was consuming annually 600,000 pounds weight of French indigo, paying for it £150,000 pounds sterling, and the statistics showed an annual increase of consumption. In 1748 Parliament passed an Act, allowing a bounty of six pence per pound on indigo from the British Colonies. This stimulated the South Carolina production and in 1754 the export of indigo from Charles Town amounted to 216,924 pounds, and shortly before the Revolution, had risen to 1,176,660 pounds.

(Year Book for 1883, pp. 402-3.)

The man who had done more to encourage this important industry (the greatest source of revenue in those days to South Carolina) than anyone in the province was Moses Lindo. This is clearly evident from the following:

"The services heretofore rendered to this province by Mr Moses Lindo, in as-

certaining the quality and establishing the reputation of our indico-manufacture, both at home and at the foreign markets, in April last induced many gentlemen of rank and fortune, merchants, planters and others, to give him the following testimonial of their opinion of his abilities, in writing, and of the necessity of having a public inspector, subscribed with their names, viz:

"In order to bring our indico-produce into reputation at home as well as at foreign markets, it becomes necessary to have a proper person qualified to ascertain the value of our First Sort. We merchants, planters, principal traders and others, do, therefore, hereby certify under our hands, that Mr Moses Lindo, of Charles-Town, merchant, is the only person kown to us, capable of rendering this province further service in that article, if he is willing to undertake ascertaining the same and to grant his certificate for the First Sort."

This testimonial was signed by the Hon William Bull, Lieutenant Governor, 5 Members of his Majesty's Council, the Speaker and 19 Members of the late Commons House of Assembly, 41 merchants and 7 "considerable planters of, or dealers in indico."

THE LEADING INDIGO PLANTERS.

Because of the local interest attaching to the names appended to this testimonial, I print it in full:

*Hon William Bull, Esq, Lieutenant Governor; the Hon Othniel Beale, Esq, *Henry Middleton, John Guerard, *John Drayton and *Daniel Blake, Esqrs, members of his Majesty's Council.

Benjamin Smith, Esq, Speaker, and *Thomas Middleton, *William Moultrie, *Peter Manigault, William Scott, *Thomas Bee, *William Blake, William Roper, *Robert Pringle, *Thomas Lynch, *Rawlins Lowndes, *Benjamin Dart, *John Ainslie, *Thomas Ferguson, *John Parker, *James Parsons, *William Maxwell, *Doet John Murray and *Sir John Colleton, members of the late Commons House of Assembly.

Messrs John Chapman, John Torrans, John Greg, John Poan, *John Smith, Thomas Liston, *Paul Douxsaint, *Miles Brewton, Henry Peronneau, Thomas Corker, John Lloyd, Arthur Peronneau, William Ancrum, Lambert Lance, *Rich-

ard Downes, John Benfield, Henry Laurens, George Appleby, John Logan, Martin Campbell, John Neufville, Edward Neufville, Thomas Ellis, John Scott, Thomas Farr, jun, James Poyas, Evan Jones, *John McQueen, William Guerin, John Parrham, Robert Smyth, Peter Bacot, James Laurens, George Ancrum, Thomas Shirley, George Inglis, Robert Rowand, John Nowell, Samuel Peronneau, Peter Mazyck and Thomas Moultrie, merchants.

Andrew Johnston, John Moultrie, jun, William Gibbes, Job Milner, Alexander Fraser, John Mayrant, William Brandford.

Considerable planters of, or dealers in indico.

(Note—The gentlemen with the mark * prefixed to their names are likewise considerable planters of indico.)

In consequence of the above testimonial and an application to the Governor, his Excellency, on Tuesday last, was pleased to order the following commission to be issued, viz:

SOUTH CAROLINA:

By his Excellency THOMAS BOONE, Esquire, Captain General, and Governor in Chief, in and over the said Province.

TO MOSES LINDO, GENTLEMAN:

WHEREAS, several of the most considerable inhabitants of the said province, as well planters as merchants, have by a writing signed by them, certified, that, in order to bring the indico produce into reputation at home and at foreign markets, it is become necessary to have a proper person qualified to ascertain the First Sort; and that the said Moses Lindo is the only person known to them capable of rendering the province further service in that article, if he is willing to undertake ascertaining the same, and grant his certificate of its being the First Sort. And, whereas, the said Moses Lindo, in order to give such his certificates the more weight and authority in Great-Britain, has made application to me, that he may be appointed Surveyor and Inspector-General of Indico in the province aforesaid. I, therefore, in consideration of the premises, and being convinced of the fitness and ability of the said Moses Lindo for discharging the said office, do hereby nominate, constitute and appoint

you the said Moses Lindo to be Surveyor and Inspector-General of the Indico made in the said province, for the ends and purposes above mentioned.

This commission to continue during pleasure.

Given under my Hand and Seal at Charles-Town, this 21st day of September, Anno Dom. 1762, and in the second year of his Majesty's reign.

THOMAS BOONE.

By his Excellency's command.

George Johnston for
John Murray, Dep Sec.

(South Carolina Gazette, September 25, 1762.)

The next notice in the Gazette is an announcement of Moses Lindo officially as Surveyor and Inspector General of Indico. It is as follows:

MOSES LINDO.

Surveyor and Inspector-General of INDICO made in South Carolina,

GIVES THE FOLLOWING NOTICES:

That as there is at present no obligation on any merchants or planters to submit their Indico to his inspection, or on him to take that trouble for nothing, he will be ready and willing, after the 16th instant, to inspect any parcel for either, ascertain the FIRST SORT, and his certificate therefor for the small consideration of ONE per cent on the value of the Indico so certified.

That he will make no distinction of persons in inspecting and giving certificates, in regard to the quantity, but will with equal readiness serve a planter who brings only 50 lb to market, as him who may bring thousands.

That where any differences arise, on allowances to be made for bad mixtures, the accidental dampness, or designed wetness of Indico to disguise the quality, he will expect TWO per cent for his decision and ascertaining the value; i. e., ONE per cent from the seller, and as much from the buyer.

That all orders gentlemen intend to favour him with, to purchase Indico on their accounts for exportation, must be delivered to him, or left at Messrs Inglis, Lloyd & Hall's, on or before the 16th instant; after which he will receive no more till those then in his hands are compleated.

And, that no planter or other person may complain that he means to injure them (which is far from hs intention) he declares, that he will not buy another parcel, till they have tried the market eight or ten days; when he will purchase, on orders upon some of the principal houses in town, at three months' credit.

N. B.—He begs pardon for having omitted among the subscribers to the testimonial or certificate, in consequence of which he obtained his commission from the Governor, to give the printer the following gentlemen's names: * * *

(South Carolina Gazette, October 9, 1762.)

THE THREE SORTS OF INDIGO.

A few days later Moses Lindo announces:

That he has opened an office on Mr Beresford's wharf, where constant attendance will be given every day in the week. (Saturdays, Sundays and holidays observed at other offices, excepted,) from 8 o'clock in the morning till 1 in the afternoon, in order to survey, inspect and grant certificates for all parcels of indico that shall be brought to him for that purpose of the FIRST SORT.

That he will not give his certificate for any indico, unless the planter produces a proper certificate of its being the growth of his plantation.

That for declaring the first sort, and granting his certificate thereof, he expects to be paid at the rate of twenty shillings currency, for every hundred pounds weight of indico mentioned in such certificates, and the like sum for settling any difference between buyer and seller, on every hundred pounds weight.

That if any planter, in eight days after obtaining his certificate for the First Sort, desires him to procure a purchaser for the same, he in that case expects to be paid 5 per cent commission, if such indico is not in any merchant or factor's hands; but if in a merchant or factor's hands, then only 20s per cent.

That he will not sort, garble and seal the First, Second and Third Sorts of indico of the present crop for exportation, but for the following gentlemen, who favoured him with their orders for that purpose before the 16th instant, or by orders obtained from them; for which his charge will be 3 per cent, Casks and all other expences included.

That all his fees must be paid him before the delivery of his certificates.

That he will not accept, or undertake to execute any orders from Europe or from any of his correspondents elsewhere, to purchase indico for them this crop. And,

That if any unfair dealings should be discovered, by fraudulent mixtures, after he has given his certificate for any parcels of indico, he is determined to expose such intended imposition.

That after the first day of February next, he will not act in this or any other capacity, in purchasing or declaring the qualities of indico, until some regulation is made by Act of Parliament to encourage the planting and manufacturing that valuable dye. * * *

(South Carolina Gazette, October 23, 1762.)

The following will give an idea of the prices brought for South Carolina Indico of the first sort:

"MOSES LINDO, Inspector and Surveyor-General of South Carolina INDICO. Having granted certificates for the FIRST SORT, sold at the prices opposite to the names of the respective makers (which he declares to be equal in quality to the best French that has been taken during the last or present war) viz:

	s. d.	
"His Honor the Lieut. Governor's, sold at..	27 6	per lb
George Saxby, Esq..	40	per lb
John Moultrie, jun, Esq..	40	per lb
Sir John Colleton, Bart..	30	per lb
Mr Edmund Bellinger..	30	per lb
Alexander Fraser, Esq ..	26 and 40	per lb
Mr Charles Elliott..	23	per lb
David Deas, Esq..	27 6	per lb
Mr George Marshal..	24	per lb
John Pamor, Esq..	27	per lb
George Seaman, Esq..	26	per lb
Mrs Mary M. Daniel..	23	per lb
Mr William Campbell..	21	per lb
Mr William Pearson..	25	per lb
Mr Philip Porcher..	27 6	per lb
Mr James Laroach..	22 6	per lb
Mr James Commander..	25	per lb
Mr William Johnson..	27 6	per lb

Part of which is now on board the Boscawen, capt David Jenkins, commander, bound for London.

IN THIS PUBLIC MANNER

Requests, that the commissioners of his Majesty's customs in London, will desire 15 or 16 gentlemen, merchants, salters and brokers, conversant in this trade, to inspect the said indico when landed, and declare their sentiments thereon in all the public papers.

And, whereas, several other parcels of indico have been shipped on board the said frigate, by divers persons, in like packages, which have not been inspected or surveyed by him, he has, therefore, thought proper to give a certificate for every cask that has undergone his inspection, and been sealed by him, specifying in the margin the kind, weight and tare, and registered the same in his office; which certificates Mr William Richardson, broker in London (one of the best judges of indico now left in England) will take care to cancel after inspection. This precaution is so eventually necessary for the interest of a colony where any manufactures are produced, that in England the law has made it felony punishable with death, to counterfeit, imitate or alter any public inspector's mark."

(South Carolina Gazettte, January 15, 1763.)

In his next notice Mr Lindo refers to his last big shipment.

"When the last 55 hogsheads arrive in England, I flatter myself the world will be satisfied of my integrity of heart and the uprightness of my intentions; as well as be convinced, that I have devoted myself to the service of my native country, and equally so to this province; for, if the indico that has undergone my inspection, and obtained my certificates, shall be proved equal in quality to the best French (which I am confident it will) in that case £12,000 sterling per annum bounty will be saved to the Government, and the planter here always sure of getting 25s currency a pound for the First Sort, and in proportion for the Second and Third, which will be sufficient to encourage them to go on in the planting and manufacturing that valuable dye." * * *

IGNORANCE OF SOME PRETENDERS.

It would thus seem as if Moses Lindo had been meeting with criticism and opposition. He ends his long letter: "Your publishing this letter may prevent some

evil-minded persons continuing to insinuate, that, sensible of my superior knowledge and experience in all dyes and drugs to any in Europe or America, I only take the advantage of exposing the ignorance of some pretenders to the like, which is not my intention. I must, however, say that no person whatever, that has not been ten or twelve years constantly employed as a broker of indico, can be a competent judge of that article, or the true value of each quality; therefore, an error in judgment after that time must be deemed a crime, not an oversight."

(South Carolina Gazette, March 26, 1763.)

In his next notice Moses Lindo announces amongst other things, that he will not purchase any Indico himself, in less than three or four days after it has been surveyed; when, if no better price can be obtained for it than his valuation, he will receive it at that, and pay for the same as he has hitherto done.

(South Carolina Gazette, October 22, 1763.)

In the Gazette of March 24, 1764, we read that "Moses Lindo, Esq; has lately been presented with the commission appointing him Surveyor and Inspector-General of Indico, under the great seal of the province."

We continue to meet with Moses Lindo in the Gazettes for some years longer. Several of the advertisements are of no particular interest, others are extremely interesting. For the sake of completeness, I shall jot down all the references to him in chronological order. He advertises on October 8, 1764. In his advertisement of May 4, 1765, he refers to "All the iniquitous practices which have been committed with Carolina Indico," and which he declares he will never countenance."

AS A MEDICAL EXPERT.

The next item is very amusing. It occurs in the Gazette of July 28, 1766. Moses Lindo in his investigation into the properties of "roots and weeds," makes a valuable medical discovery, and, while not, as far as I know, a member of the medical profession, he is public spirited enough not to desire to retain the boon for himself, so he writes this letter to the Gazette:

"MR TIMOTHY:

"HAVING lately made a valuable discovery, the CURE of that grievous and common disease among the Negroes,

called the YAWS. * * * I beg leave to make use of the channel of your paper to make the Recipe public for the good of mankind, without the least view to my private advantage; and to request that such gentlemen whose negroes have been, or may be cured, will make the same publickly known, so as to be communicated to his Majesty's other American dominions. I am yours, &c.

MOSES LINDO,
Inspector General of Indico.

RECIPE TO CURE THE YAWS, &c.

To a pound of Poke root, add three ounces of Tobacco, and an ounce of Roman Vitriol, boil the same in five quarts of water, till reduced to a gallon, and strain it. With this, wash the infected part three times a day. A pint is sufficient for ten or twelve days.

At the same time use a diet drink, made of Two pounds of Lignum Vitae shavings, four ounces of the bark of Sassafras root, four ounces of Anniseeds, and half a pound of brown sugar, boiled in four gallons of water till reduced to three. The patient to take a pint a day, mixed with three pints of water for twenty days.

Being a member of the medical fraternity, and morally bound by the ethics of the profession—one rule in the code of which is, that all valuable discoveries are to become the property of all, I hasten to announce my discovery to my confreres and hope that they may find the recipe as useful for the cure of the "Yaws," as did its original discoverer Moses Lindo.

Moses Lindo advertises again on November 10, 1766, and on January 19, 1767, he writes a long letter to Mr Timothy on the present status of Carolina Indico abroad.

"I have lately observed with concern, in an account of a public sale of 12 casks of French, and 23 of Carolina Indico on the 28th of August last * * * that all the French sold at 4s 5d per lb, while only one cask of the Carolina allowed to be fully as good as the best French, obtained no more than 3s 8d, and all the rest sold amazingly low." He attributes the difference to a combination at home among the importers of foreign indico, to discourage its cultivation in his Majesty's Colonies. He "publickly avers" that the Carolina Indico, which he distinguishes as FIRST SORT, properly prepared by the

dyer, will yield a superior dye to the very best French. He ought to know more certainly than the generality of people for "I have been allowed to be one of the best judges of Cochineal and Indico on the ROYAL EXCHANGE, for upwards of 25 years past; and have not been thought unworthy (when Sir Stephen Theodore Jansen represented the city of London in Parliament) to be called with Mr Samuel Torin, and Mr Daniel Valentine, to give my sentiments of Carolina Indico to the hon. House of Commons of Great Britain."

OUR FIRST PLEA FOR "PROTECTION."

Lindo was a man of resources and a true protectionist. He suggests, that as there exists a prejudice of 25 per cent against Carolina Indico brought about by the combination, that the British Parliament, instead of continuing the present bounty, should lay 1s a pound duty on all the French, exported from Britain and which would save no less than £12,000 per annum to the Government, and at the same time give sufficient encouragement to cultivate 1,500,000 lb in his Majesty's Colonies, for the use of British manufactories. * * * As Inspector-General of Indico in this province (though without a salary) he thinks it his duty "to rescue that valuable branch of our staples from the malign influence of designing men," as far as it lies in his power.

In the Gazette of October 10, 1771, Moses Lindo has a lengthy communication in defence of the custom of packing Carolina Indico in the Spanish shape. "Judges," he says, "never buy from outward appearance; they will examine its inward Quality. Therefore, there can be no Fraud in the Imitation." He quotes in defence of his contention the custom of mercers who, in order to get off their fine silks, are often obliged to call them French, though wholly wove in Spitalfields. He makes several observations on Carolina, Florida and Guatemala Indico and ends by the statement that he has the interest of this country "as disinterestedly as much at heart" as any native, and is resolved to spend the remainder of his days here, where merit will meet with its reward, without partiality, from the highest to the lowest of its inhabitants.

In the Gazette of July 23, 1772, Moses Lindo advertises that it would afford him great satisfaction, if three or four persons, well experienced in the Indico business, would undertake the sorting and garbling of Indico for exportation, by which means that valuable produce might recover its reputation both at home and at foreign markets. His own services are only at the disposal of his regular patrons, whose names are appended * * *

On August 6, 1772, there is an announcement that Moses Lindo, Esq, has resigned the Place of Inspector-General of Indico for this province.

On August 20, 1772, Lindo publishes a letter to Henry Laurens, Esq, containing his reasons for refusing to act any longer as Inspector-General of Indico. He would not seal certain classes of Indico "and bring disgrace on the Seal with a Crown over G. R." He would still continue, however, to serve his friends, if his knowledge can be of any use to them.

On November 12, 1772, he advertises again vindicating the action he has taken.

SENDS A TOPAZ TO THE QUEEN.

The next item is a most interesting one and deserves to be investigated if only for curiosity, by some English-Jewish antiquarian. It occurs in the Gazette of March 15, 1773.

"Moses Lindo, Esq, his Majesty's Inspector General of Indico, having, about eight years ago, accidentally met with, and for a Trifle purchased, a Stone (among others) found in this province, which he judged to be a WATER SAPPHIRE or TOPAZ, and then declared to be too valuable a jewel to be possessed by any other than the Queen of England, making a Vow, that it should be sent to her Majesty; we hear, has accordingly sent the same, in the Eagle Packet-Boat, by the Hands of the Right Hon Lord Charles-Greville Montague, to be presented to her Majesty. The size and shape of this Stone is like Half a Hen's Egg, and the Weight 526 Carats."

I confess that I am curious as to the subsequent fate of this stone and I propose to try and find out something further about it.

On September 6, 1773, Lindo publishes a lengthy letter to Mr John Ledyard, of Melksham, in Wiltshire, pointing out many fallacies in t..e statements made abroad concerning Carolina Indico and showing him how he may prove his own statements by actual experiment, the materials for which he is sending him. This letter is a splendid illustration of Lindo s patriotic feeling and of his unuring efforts in behalf of the province.

On November 22, 1773, Lindo makes a statement of the fight he is making against the combination in London against Carolina Indico. He recites what he has done to promote the welfare of the province and refers to a recommendation that is to be made to the General Assembly to allow him a yearly salary besides fees. He has not become wealthy as the result of his work: "Should any accident befall me thro' the infirmities of age or otherwise, I am persuaded it is not difficult for you, or any of my friends to conceive how very wretched a being would be Yours, &c,

"MOSES LINDO."

He still signs himself Inspector-General of Indico.

On December 27, 1773, there is a notice that 13,000 pounds weight of Indico, belonging to two planters, were last week sold by Mr Samuel Prioleau, jun, at a Dollar a pound to Moses Lindo, Esq; Inspector-General, who has declared that the whole quantity is equal if not superior to any French that, in the many years' experience he has had, has gone thro' his hands, or fallen under his observation.

DIES HERE IN 1774.

Moses Lindo died in 1774. The South Carolina Gazette in which he had advertised so extensively for so many years, makes no mention of his death, but in the South Carolina Gazette and Country Journal of Tuesday, April 26, 1774, we read:

Charles-Town April 26, DIED, Moses Lindo, Esq; for many years Inspector-General of Indico in this Town.

There is but one notice more and that in the South Carolina Gazette of May 23, 1774: "Moses Lindo, Inspector-General of Indico, having departed this life, his Estate and Effects * * * will be sold at public outcry on Saturday, the 11th of June next." * * *

I have thus kept track of the subject of my sketch from the time he landed in South Carolina till his death. Moses Lindo left no will. The inventory of his estate, dated May 17, 1774, and appraised at £1,199.17.8 is recorded in the Probate Office Book V, p. 591. It has been a pleasure to me to perpetuate the memory of this public spirited and patriotic Jew who was a resident of Charles-Town from 1756 to 1774. He is but one example of many of his faith who have contributed in no small way to the upbuilding of this great country.

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